

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 10465 281241Z

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TAGS: SWEL, IR

SUBJ: IRAN SOCIAL SECURITY

REFS: A) STATE 137665 B) TEHRAN 9770

1. SCIATT CALLED OCTOBER 22 ON JOHNGIZ VAFAI, MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIAL INSURANCE ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE IRANIAN MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE, TO DETERMINE STATUS OF THEIR SOCIAL INSURANCE PROGRAM AND WHETHER THEY ARE STILL INTERESTED IN SSA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

2. ANSWER IS THAT FOR THE TIME BEING NO USG EXPERTS ARE NEEDED. A SOCIAL SECURITY LAW WAS PASSED SOME MONTHS AGO WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE SOCIAL INSURANCE OF ONE SORT OR ANOTHER TO ALL GAINFULLY EMPLOYED IRANIANS, BUT THE IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS AND THE CAPABILITY OF ADMINISTERING THEM ARE BY NO MEANS READY.

3. THE SOCIAL INSURANCE ORGANIZATION IS AT PRESENT NEGOTIATING WITH ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST FIRMS OF ACTUARIAL CONSULTANTS TO PROVIDE ADVICE ON ITS PROGRAM.

4. A CONSORTIUM OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES LED BY DEAN GINSBURG OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY HAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOI A PLAN FOR AN IRANIAN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS SCHOOL WILL HAVE DIVISIONS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY, SOCIAL WORK, REHABILITATION, AND PARA MEDICAL PERSONNEL. THE PLAN IS GOING THROUGH AN EXTENDED PROCESS OF ACCEPTANCE WITHIN THE IRANIAN

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BUREAUCRACY, INCLUDING APPROVAL BY THE HIGH COUNCIL ON HIGHER

EDUCATION. IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT THE GOI WOULD LIKE TO HAVE
THE BENEFIT OF AN SSA OFFICIAL OR TWO WHEN THIS SCHOOL OPENS
ITS DOORS, BUT IT IS UNREALISTIC TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH A REQUEST
WILL BE FORTHCOMING SOON.
HELMS

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